

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76503

Kenji DATE, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/617,872

Group Art Unit: 1775

Confirmation No.: 3837

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 14, 2003

For:

POROUS SINTERED METAL AND FILTER THEREOF, AND METHOD FOR

PRODUCING POROUS SINTERED METAL

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.:

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanations:

The submission of the attached English language abstract along with Japanese

Patent Laid-open Publication No. 2001-271101 constitutes a concise statements of

relevance of the respective reference.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do

not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise

remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present

application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 24,513

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date:

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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO					Complete if Known				
					Application Number	10/617,872	_		
	INFOR	RMATION	DISCLO	SURE	Confirmation Number	3837	_		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				CANT	Filing Date	July 14, 2003	_		
DIPE					First Named Inventor	Kenji DATE	_		
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20			U.S.	PATENT DOCU	MENTS	
A Fateumer Initials*	Cite No.1	Document	Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US 5,976,454	A	11-02-1999	STERZEL et al.	
		US 6,117,592	Α	09-12-2000	HOSHINO et al.	
		US				
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			F	OREIGN PA	TENT DOCUM	ENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	m 14 6
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		JP	2001-271101	A	10-02-2001		Abstract
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		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.